

Attorney Docket No. 387785

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A method for accelerating execution of a program used by an entity, the entity having an authority making decisions for the entity, comprising the steps
5 of:
communicating at least one program function to a library in data communication with the program;
transmitting the function to a computing facility;
processing the function at the computing facility;
10 transmitting results associated with processing the function from the computing facility to the entity; and
translating the results to a language compatible with the program.
2. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the step of processing the function comprises using a computer cluster.
3. (Original) A method of, 1, wherein the function comprises data.
4. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting data to the function.
5. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising the step of accessing a 900 number to pay for the cost.
- 20 6. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the step of calculating cost comprises estimating a number of instructions per second associated with processing the function.
7. (Original) A method of claim 6, wherein the step of calculating cost further comprises estimating a number of seconds of cluster processing used to process
25 the function.
8. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the step of calculating cost comprises estimating a number of instructions associated with processing the function.

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9. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the step of estimating instructions comprises estimating MIPS.

10. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the computing facility comprises a cluster of computers.

5 11. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the steps of transmitting comprise transmitting through the Internet.

12. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of calculating a cost for executing and processing the function; informing the authority of the cost; and receiving permission from the authority to process the function.

C 10 13. (Original) A method of claim 12, further comprising the step of billing the cost to the authority on a per-transaction basis.

14. (Original) A method of claim 12, further comprising the step of paying the cost through electronic funds transfer.

15 15. (Original) A method of claim 12, further comprising the step of paying the cost through a prepaid account.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of claim ~~11~~12, further comprising the step of paying the cost through a credit card e-commerce transaction.

17. (Original) A method of claim 12, further comprising the step of billing the authority for the cost at a predetermined interval.

20 18. (Original) A method of claim 1, wherein the step of processing comprises processing through a cluster of computers, and further comprising the step of producing parallel data rates through a Home Node.

19. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising clicking on an icon, displayed on a computer at the entity, to initiate accelerated execution of the program.

25 20. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising utilizing a DLL with the entity to facilitate accelerated execution of the program.

21. (Currently Amended) A network for accelerating execution of a program used by an entity, comprising:

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a computer connected to the Internet;
a library, associated with the computer, accepting requests to accelerate
processing of at least one function of the program;
a distributed cluster connected to the computer through the Internet; and
5 an ISP having protocol software to engage nodes connected to the ISP to process
the function and return a result to the computer.

22. (Original) A network of claim 21, wherein the nodes comprise a cluster
for accelerating processing of the function.

23. (Original) A network of claim 22, wherein the cluster comprises a
10 heterogeneous cluster.

24. (Original) A network of claim 22, wherein the cluster comprises at least
six computers connected by a network.

25. (Original) A network of claim 21, wherein the cluster accepts the function
through the Internet.

15 26. (Original) An ISP, comprising:
a plurality of users connected in cluster to distribute processing functions among
the cluster; and
software to facilitate distributed processing of a function among the cluster.

27. (Currently Amended) An ISP according to claim ~~20~~26, further comprising
20 software facilitating an external payment transaction between an entity desiring
accelerated processing of the function and the ISP.

28-32. (Cancelled)

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